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# COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA



## OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

### Executive Order 6 (2002)

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#### **Directing All State Agencies to Actively Recruit National and Regional Conferences to the Commonwealth**

Our great Commonwealth provides a wealth of resources to attract and support major conferences and conventions. From the birthplace of our nation, Jamestown Island, to the historic homes of George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, and James Madison, to the natural wonders and amenities of our number-one-ranked state park system, all parts of Virginia abound with wonderful tourist attractions. From Hampton Roads to the great Southwest, from Northern Virginia to Charlottesville, from Richmond to Roanoke, and from the Shenandoah Valley to Southside Virginia, the hospitality and travel businesses of Virginia stand ready to assist with major conferences and conventions.

By virtue of the authority vested in me as Governor under Article V, Section 1 of the Constitution of Virginia and Sections 2.2-103 and 2.2-104 of the Code of Virginia, I hereby direct all state agencies, boards, and commissions to develop and implement plans for identifying appropriate organizations and recruiting those organizations to hold their regional and national conferences and conventions in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

All agencies, boards, and commissions shall immediately contact all national organizations to which they pay any dues and encourage such

organizations to hold regional and national conferences and conventions in Virginia. All agencies, boards, and commissions shall actively pursue attracting such conferences and conventions.

All agencies, boards, and commissions shall submit a report to the Secretary of Commerce and Trade by May 1 of each year. The report shall include a list of all the national organizations to which dues are paid, a detailed report on the status of any negotiations or contacts with each of those national organizations regarding conferences and conventions, a report on negotiations or contacts with any other national organizations, and any other information relevant to the recruitment of national and regional conferences and conventions.

The Virginia Tourism Authority is hereby directed to provide assistance upon request to each agency, board and commission in their efforts to attract regional and national conferences and conventions.

This Executive Order shall be effective upon its signing, and shall remain in full force and effect until June 30, 2006, unless amended or rescinded by further executive order. Given under my hand and under the Seal of the Commonwealth of Virginia, this 23rd day of January, 2002.

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**Mark R. Warner, Governor**

**Attest:**

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**Secretary of the Commonwealth**